

LITTLE LEVER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ON THE

HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF LITTLE LEVER

FOR THE YEAR

1968



E. TAYLOR, M.B., ChB., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT OF LITTLE LEVER
FOR THE YEAR 1968.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Little Lever Urban District Council.

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of Little Lever, during the year ended December, 31st, 1968.

Perusal of the following vital statistics reveal a continuing high birth rate - just over twice the national figure - and the loss of infant life of 3 still-births and 7 infants under one year. Of these latter, 5 occurred within the first week of life and were unavoidable. The causes of the 70 deaths followed the usual pattern of recent years. There were no maternal deaths.

The incidence of notifiable infectious diseases was remarkably low.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in Acres..... 808
Population - Census, 1961.....5,088
Population - Registrar General's mid-year estimate.....6,920
No. of inhabited houses.....2,707
Rateable Value.....£221,102
Sum represented by a Penny Rate.....£834

Births

Live Births	Male	Female	Total	England and Wales
Legitimate	116	109	225	
Illegitimate	3	8	11	
	119	117	236	

Live-birth rate (per 1,000 Population) - crude 34.1, adjusted 38.9 16.9
Live-birth ratio of Local adjusted birth-rate
to National birth-rate - 2.30

Still Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	1	2	3

Still-birth rate (per 1,000 live and still-births) - 13.0 14.0

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Deaths from all causes (see table in P.2.)	32	38	70	
Crude death rate	10.1	per 1,000 population		
Adjusted death rate	13.0	" " "		11.9
Ratio Local death rate to National rate	1.17			

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Infant deaths under 1 year	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	5	2	7
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	5	2	7

Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	30.0	18.0
Neonatal mortality rate (under 4 weeks)	30.0	12.3
Perinatal mortality rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week)	29.0	25.0

Maternal Mortality

Number of deaths	0	0.20.
Rate per 1,000 live and still-births	Nil	

Table of Causes of Death

Causes of Death	Male	Female
Malignant neoplasm - stomach	1	4
" " - uterus	-	1
Lung Bronchus	2	1
Other malignant neoplasms	1	2
Diabetes Melitensis - Anaemias	-	1
Meningitis	-	1
Chronic Rheumatic heart disease	1	1
Hypertension with heart disease	2	-
Ischaemic heart disease	8	9
Other heart diseases	1	2
Cerebrovascular disease	4	6
Other circulatory diseases	1	3
Pneumonia	1	2
Bronchitis and Emphysema	1	2
Ulcer of stomach	1	0
Other diseases of digestive system	1	-
" " " genito-urinary system	0	1
Birth injury, difficult labour	4	..
Other cases of perinatal mortality	0	1
Motor vehicle accidents	1	0
All other accidents	1	1
	32	38

Infectious Diseases

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
Scarlet Fever.	3	0
Measles.	26	0

There were no cases notified of Diphtheria, Dysentery, Acute Pneumonia, Food-poisoning, Tuberculosis, or Whooping Cough.

General Provision of Health Service for Area.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

This service is undertaken by the family doctor or the Local Health Authority in the Mytham Road Clinic.

Ambulance Service Lancashire County Council - Telephone SWINTON 4343.

Care of Children - Children's Act, 1948.

Area Children's Office (Lancashire County Council).

Area Children's Officer - BURY

Clinics (Lancashire County Council) Mytham Road.

Ante-natal.

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis.

Vaccination.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

School Health Service.

Venereal Disease: Civic Centre, Bolton.

Males: Monday - Friday 9.30 - 11.30 p.m.

Mon. Wed., Fri. 4.30 - 7.00 p.m.

Females: Tues. Thurs. Sat. 9.30 - 11.30 p.m.

Mon. Wed. Fri. 4.30 - 7.00 p.m.

Convalescence - Lancashire County Council - Apply Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh, Lancs. (Telephone Leigh 73227)

Health Visiting:

One Health Visitor is employed by the Lancashire County Council.

Home Nursing:

One District Nurse is employed by the Lancashire County Council.

Hospitals:

Bolton Royal Infirmary.

Bolton District General Hospital, Farnworth.

Laboratory Facilities:

Available at Bolton Hospitals and Public Health Laboratory Service, Withington Hospital.

Midwifery Service:

Midwives employed by Lancashire County Council.

Unmarried Mothers:

Provision for their care is made by Lancashire County Council, by agreement with the Council for Moral Welfare: Miss A. Rigby,
24, Acresfield,
BOLTON. Telephone Bolton 28524.

Welfare Services:

Provided by Lancashire County Council through the Divisional Health Committee.

Home-Help: - Apply to Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh, Lancs. (Telephone Leigh 73227).

Voluntary Services:

The Old Peoples' Voluntary Welfare Committee continued to integrate and co-ordinate voluntary activities in the field of old peoples' welfare.

Interest among the older citizens was stimulated by social events at the Civic Hall.

Christmas parcels to the over 80's and Meals-on-Wheels in particular, continue to be most invaluable and much appreciated.

Adoptive Acts in Force.

Public Health Acts (Amendment Act) 1890, Part 4.
Public Health Acts (Amendment Act) 1907, Parts 2 and 4.
Public Health Acts, 1925, Part 2 (Except Sections 22 and 25.)
Private Street Works Act, 1892.

Sanitary Accommodation:

The types of sanitary accommodation, with the numbers of each type, at the end of 1968, were as follows:-

Privvy Middens.....	1
Closets attached to these Middens.....	2
Waste Water Closets.....	17
Fresh Water Closets.....	2,837
Moveable Dustbins.....	3,055
Number of houses on water carriage system.....	2,854

Sanitary Inspections.

During 1968, the number of premises visited for the purpose of sanitary inspections was 569, involving a total of 1,265 visits. As a result of these visits, 44 defects or nuisances were discovered. 27 were abated as a result of the issuing of 5 informal notices and 4 statutory notices. Legal procedure was not required in any case.

Bakehouses, shops and cowsheds have been periodically inspected during the year, and have been found to be in a satisfactory condition.

There are three dairy farms in the district. No complaints have been made about the quality of the milk produced.

There are no slaughterhouses or poultry processing premises within the district.

There are 20 food shops in the district, supplying general groceries and provisions. In addition there are 6 shops which supply greengroceries and fruits (including wet fish, game, etc.) 1 fishmonger's shop, 4 meat shops, 3 bakery and confectionery shops and 6 fried fish shops. All have been visited and inspected periodically and found to be satisfactory. Standards of hygiene are noticeably higher than they used to be and shopkeepers generally are much more careful in the display and handling of foodstuffs.

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations govern standards in food premises including the conduct and cleanliness of staff and most food premises in the district now conform to the requirements of the regulations. No certificates of exemption (Regulation 16) are in force and all premises comply with Regulation 19.

Water Supply:

The water supply is from the Bolton Corporation Water Board (Irwell Valley Division) and is constant. All houses are directly connected, the number of houses with a piped supply being 2,859 and the population served 6,920.

During 1968, 684 bacteriological examinations of the raw water were made, and all were satisfactory. In addition, 1,416 bacteriological examinations and 7 chemical analyses of the water going into supply after treatment, were carried out and 98.59% were found to be satisfactory. The natural fluoride content of the water is 0.15 ppm.

The water supply comes from reservoirs into which upland surface water flows. All supplies are chlorinated, and no water with a plumbosolvent action is included. The water supply on the whole is very satisfactory, but there are several houses with a very low water pressure due to old service pipes requiring renewal.

During 1968, 31 yards of 3 inch diameter pipes were laid for existing dwellings, and 518 yards of 2 inch diameter pipes, 983 yards of 3 inch diameter pipes, 628 yards of 4 inch diameter pipes were laid for new dwellings.

Sewage and Refuse Disposal

The methods used for sewage disposal have again been quite satisfactory during the year. The sewage is treated by screening, sedimentation and filtration. The Council are members of the Bolton and District Joint Sewerage Board, and the construction of the Trunk Sewer to serve the area has improved the facilities considerably.

There are four houses in the district without sewerage systems, due to the fact that they cannot be connected to a sewer. Septic tanks, of which there are two in the district, are kept in order by the owners at their expense. During 1968, 316 new houses were connected up to the sewerage system.

House refuse is collected by the Council's fore and aft tipper. Collections are made each week and the one remaining privy midden is cleared each fortnight. All the refuse collected is disposed of by controlled tipping on the Council's Tip.

All sewers and manholes have been periodically inspected and sewers have been flushed and manholes cleaned out to control rat infestation, as well as 6 monthly treatments by Rentokil Laboratories, Limited, with fluoracetamide.

Atmospheric Pollution

The Council are Members of the South-East Lancashire and North Cheshire Consultative Committee for the Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution. There are 11 factory chimneys in the district. Personal contact by the Public Health Inspector is maintained with works managers. The problems of dust fumes from a chemical plant in the district are now solved due to the discontinuation of the business.

It has still not been practicable to put into force the Bye-Laws under section 24 of the Clean Air Act, 1956. A complete review of the Council's plans for Smoke Control has been made and survey commenced, with a view to making the district smoke free by the mid 1970's.

Housing

During 1968, 230 new houses were built by other bodies or persons, and 86 by the Council.

Number of Houses owned by the Local Authority.

1.	Under 1919 Scheme.....	107
2.	Under Housing Act, 1923.....	11
3.	Under Housing Act, 1924.....	107
4.	Erected during 1936.....	30
5.	" " 1937.....	37
6.	" " 1938.....	34
7.	" " 1947.....	14
8.	" " 1948.....	31
9.	" " 1949.....	43
10.	" " 1951.....	26
11.	" " 1952.....	19
12.	" " 1955.....	52
13.	" " 1956.....	55
14.	" " 1957.....	12
15.	" " 1959.....	40
16.	" " 1961.....	40
17.	" " 1963.....	32
18.	" " 1965.....	18
19.	" " 1966.....	28
20.	" " 1968.....	86

Housing. (Continued)

The general standard of housing in the district is reasonable and compares favourably with that of neighbouring townships. The commonest type of older house is the four-roomed cottage, built in rows, each with two bedrooms. There are about 500 of these, but about 150 of these are in a poor state and ought to be demolished. The main defects to be found are dampness, low ceilings and absence of bathrooms and inside lavatories, poor water pressure, absence of hot water systems and old age. The majority of them have had no maintenance work done for many years and have steadily deteriorated. They are nothing more than anachronistic relics of the mid-Victorian years, and nobody, apart from their owners would mourn their demolition.

During 1968, there were 13 applications submitted to the Council for Standard Grants and 12 were approved. Of these, 4 were for all amenities, 3 for 6 amenities, 1 for 4 amenities and 1 for 3 amenities, 2 for 2 amenities and 1 for 1 amenity. In 16 cases the work was completed during the year. There were no applications during 1968 for Improvement Grants. The number of applications for Standard Grants is still disappointingly small. There are many older houses in the district which could be renovated at a reasonable expense and their useful life prolonged, but owners of these houses still do not appear to appreciate the advantages of this scheme.

The building of houses for sale by private builders is increasing in the area. During 1968, 179 houses were built for sale. With a further influx of newcomers to the district and a consequent rise in the population figure.

The waiting list for Council Houses continues to diminish, due to the building of houses by the Council and by private builders.

Six slum clearance orders were made in 1968, totalling 79 houses.

Sixty-nine houses were demolished during the year.

No known cases of overcrowding now remain, but the housing situation is kept under constant review.

Town Planning

The County Council have delegated powers to the Local Authority for the purpose of Town Planning. The closest co-operation exists between the Local Authority and the County Council in all matters relating to Town Planning.

E. Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

PART I OF THE ACT

(14)1- INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

Premises	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	7	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced, by the Local Authority.	22	9	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers Premises).	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	31	9	Nil	Nil

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	referred		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
			To H.M. Inspector. (4)	By H.M. Inspector. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)					
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective.					
(c) Not separate for sexes.					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work).					
TOTAL					

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134).

Nature of Work. (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August. list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council. (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists. (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole-some premises. (5)	Notices served. (6)	Prosecutions. (7)
wearing) Making apparel) etc.,) Cleaning) and) Washing	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Household linen						
Lace, lace curtains and nets						
Curtains and furniture hangings						
Furniture and upholstery						
Electro-plate						
File making						
Brass and brass articles						
Fur pulling						
Iron and steel cables and chains						
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels						
Cart gear						
Locks, latches and keys						
Umbrellas, etc.						
Artificial flowers						
Nets, other than wire nets						
Tents						
Sacks						
Racquet and tennis balls						

PART VIII OF THE ACT
(Continued)

CUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Paper bags						
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper						
Brush making						
Pea picking						
Feather sorting						
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.						
Stuffed toys						
Basket making						
Chocolates and sweetmeats						
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Textile weaving						
Lampshades						
TOTAL	6	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

